



WHITEFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1943.

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Whitefield Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor J. W. JONES, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1943

Councillor D. W. McCLUNE, Chairman.

„ F. CARLTON ANDERSON, C.C.
 „ J. AVERY, D.Sc.
 „ E. BROWN
 „ H. C. DEPLEDGE
 „ C. FARRAND, J.P.
 „ W. E. FAULKNER
 „ R. HALL, J.P.
 „ J. W. JONES, J.P.
 „ H. LANGAN, J.P.
 „ H. LONGWORTH
 „ P. WHITTLE.

Clerk of the Council—

C. F. PORTER, F.C.C.S., F.I.P.A.

Medical Officer of Health—

C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

B. HODGSON, C.S.I. (Lond.), M.S.I.A.

Assistant to the Department—

F. E. BIRTWISTLE, A.R.I.P.H.H.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943

September, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Whitefield.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the fifth interim report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District. The report is confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year.

SECTION A—GENERAL SUMMARY.

There has been no change in the general provision of health services for the district.

Diphtheria immunisation has been steadily maintained, especially amongst the pre-school children. The number of infants immunised under the Council's Scheme represents 70 per cent. of the total number. At least 10 per cent. of the remainder will have been immunised privately. For the second consecutive year there was not one case of Diphtheria in the district.

Milk samples have been free from Tuberculosis, but the bacteriological content was much too high in several cases; the provision of an absolutely safe supply cannot be guaranteed under present conditions unless the milk is efficiently heat treated.

Table I. - STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area—3,261 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of:—

resident population mid 1943 ... 11,610

No. of inhabited houses, according to Rate Books at the end of 1943—4,169.

Rateable Value 1943—£78,405.

Sum represented by a penny rate 1942/43—£317.

Table II. - VITAL STATISTICS, 1943.

		Total	M.	F.	} Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—17.2.
Live Births	Legitimate ...	195	104	91	
	Illegitimate ...	5	3	2	
	Total ...	<u>200</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>93</u>	

Still Births ... 6 5 1 Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—29.1.

Deaths (all ages) ... 162 79 83 Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population—13.9.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes .—

Puerperal Sepsis ... Nil.

Other puerperal causes Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 30.0

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 30.8

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 15

„ „ Measles (all ages) ... Nil.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... 1

Table III. - CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1942.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF CAUSES.

							Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Cancer (stomach and duodenum)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
„ (breast)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
„ (other sites)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Intra cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	23
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	-
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	12
All Causes:-							79	83

TOTAL ... 162.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There has been no important change in these provisions during the year.

The following pathological and bacteriological examinations were made during 1943:—

- (1) Diphtheria, 11.
- (2) Enteric Fever, 1.
- (3) Milk Samples:—
 - (a) Biological, 18. None found to contain tubercle bacilli.
 - (b) Bacteriological, 27—7 found to be unsatisfactory.
 - (c) Methylene Blue, 27—11 found to be unsatisfactory.

Ambulance Facilities.—The Council have their own ambulance and full-time driver.

Reciprocal arrangements also exist with the adjoining Boroughs of Radcliffe and Prestwich.

708 calls for accident cases and private removals were received during the year, compared with 762 during 1942.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

No changes have occurred in connection with the water supply and sewerage system. Mr. R. Wyllie, Water Engineer, Irwell Valley Water Board, reports:—

“As our own Chemist is away on Government work the number of samples we now take is less than normally taken. No samples have been taken in Whitefield, and the samples that have been taken are from various parts of the district but of the same water as delivered to Whitefield.

The water is all chlorinated as it leaves the reservoirs, and the results of the analysis have been satisfactory.

The total number of samples taken in 1943 was Chemical—10, Bacteriological—72.”

A detailed statement of inspections by the Sanitary Inspector is appended.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Defects which have been found or notified have received attention. Five houses were found to be infested with bugs. The necessary treatment was carried out by a Contractor.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Licences.—The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938, have been issued :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Distribution	Nil.
Accredited Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Distribution	Nil.
Pasteurised Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Retail Distributors.....	2.

(b) Dairies, Milk Shops.—There are 35 milk purveyors other than cow-keepers. Regular inspections of the premises were made during the year.

(c) Farms.—There are 18 dairy farms and 275 cows in the district. All the farms in the district were inspected monthly with a view to cleanliness, lime-washing and structural condition. The cleanliness of the cows and the milkers was also watched, together with methods for sterilising the utensils, cooling, bottling and sterilising the milk.

(d) Samples.

(1) For tuberculous milk—18 samples—none found to contain tubercle bacilli.

(2) For bacterial content—
27 samples—7 unsatisfactory.

(3) Methylene Blue Test—27 samples—11 unsatisfactory.

Repeatedly bad samples were obtained from one milk producer. He was asked to appear before the Health Committee, and thereafter the samples proved to be satisfactory.

Meat Supply.—All local slaughter-houses ceased to be used Sunday midnight, the 14th January, 1940.

Because of the rationing, the meat supply and distribution became centralised and there is now very little local slaughtering. It is still very necessary to inspect meat coming into the shops.

Details are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report of Meat and other foods found to be unfit for human consumption.

Bakehouses, Food Shops, Fish Fryers, and Meat Shops.—Routine inspections have been made of all the above premises throughout the year.—Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There was an outbreak of Measles and Whooping Cough during the first half of the year, and of Scarlet Fever during the second half. The infections were mild in character, complications were very few, and no deaths occurred.

Table IV.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	82	65	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	—	—	—
Measles (excluding German Measles) ...	56	1	—
Whooping Cough	76	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenza)	27	—	6
Erysipelas... ..	4	1	—
Total number of cases ...	245	67	6

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A full report about this Service was given last year. Sessions have been held regularly at the School Clinic, the Birthday Card Scheme has continued to work satisfactorily. With the aid of this Scheme and the valuable assistance of the County Council Child Welfare Service, over seventy per cent. of the infants have been immunised. In addition, a number will have been treated privately.

For the second year in succession there has not been a single case of Diphtheria.

TABLE VI.
DIPHTHERIA.

Year	No. of Cases	No. of Deaths
1933	17	1
1934	11	Nil.
1935	14	Nil.
1936	17	2
1937	14	1
1938	51	2
1939	32	1
*1940	6	1
1941	3	Nil.
1942	Nil.	Nil.
1943	Nil.	Nil.

*Immunisation Scheme started May, 1940

Percentage of children immunised: 1—5 years—72%

5—15 years—90%

No cases of diphtheria have occurred during the past two and a half years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table VII.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age Periods.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry		Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years	0—1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	1—5	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	5—10	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
„	10—15	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„	15—20	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
„	20—25	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
„	25—35	...	...	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
„	35—45	...	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	45—55	...	...	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
„	55—65	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	65 & upwards	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals				7	5	3	4	2	3	—	1
				12		7		5		1	

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1940-42.—These Regulations require particulars of all persons of certain specified ages who have been on the Tuberculosis Register to be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour; the object is to draw the attention of the Medical Boards for enlistment in His Majesty's Forces. Several names were notified in 1943.

Smoke Abatement.—The regulations have been temporarily relaxed.

C. H. T. WADE,
Medical Officer of Health.

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT
OF WHITEFIELD.**

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Whitefield.

September, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Whitefield Urban District.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my report of the Sanitary conditions of the district for the year ending December 31st, 1943.

During the year 1,061 premises have been visited, 108 defects or nuisances were found and 82 abated, 80 informal notices were served. In no case was it necessary to resort to Statutory action.

May I express to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Clerk to the Council and Staff in general my appreciation of the valued assistance and co-operation shown to me during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

B. HODGSON,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Complaints Investigated	82
Bakehouses	23
Dairies and Cowsheds	120
Slaughter Houses	7
Food Shops, etc.	142
Factories	11
Factories re smoke	6
Dwelling Houses :—Public Health Acts	34
Council Houses	57
Infectious Diseases	61
Disinfected	23
Re-visits :—Public Health Acts	42
Council Houses	7
Infectious Diseases	5
Drains	32
Stables and Piggeries	17
Builders and Owners Interviewed	21
Infestation Order	46
Cleansing Visits	165
Casualty Services	52
Miscellaneous Visits	107
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Total	1061
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Disinfestation and Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following is a summary of the work which has been carried out during the year:—

1. No. of houses found to be infested 5
 No. of houses disinfested 10
2. Where houses are found to be infested with vermin, disinfestation is generally carried out by a Contractor. In minor cases the houses are treated with Sulphur or Zaldecide.

Inspection and Supervision of the Food Supply.

The duties appertaining to the supervision of the food supply have been assiduously carried out throughout the year.

Milk Supply.

Much time has been devoted to the inspection of farms and dairies and the taking of samples, with, I feel sure, very beneficial result, as there has been a definite improvement in so far as the production of clean and disease free milk as against last year.

26 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Methylene Blue and Coliform test. Of the samples submitted 27 per cent. were found not to conform to the coliform test, 18 samples were submitted for biological examination and found to be free from tuberculosis.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The duties under the above Act are carried out by the County Public Health Department, and I am indebted to Mr. Almond, the County Sanitary Officer, for a report of the work carried out in this district.

The number of samples taken were:—

Milk	11
Calomel	1
Seidlitz Powders... ..	1
Extract of Sarsaparilla	1

All samples were of the standard required by the Act.

Meat and Other Foods.

12 Pigs were slaughtered under licence granted by the Ministry of Food. In all cases the Department is notified by the Food Officer of all licences granted, after which the carcasses are examined.

The undermentioned articles of food were on examination found to be unfit for food and surrendered:—

		2 Pigs Heads.
		80 Tins of Milk.
27	„	Luncheon Meat.
7	„	Corned Beef.
8	„	Jam.
22	„	Vegetables.
4	„	Soup.
3	„	Tongue.
36	„	Sausages.
6	„	Chopped Ham.
39	„	Fruit.
145	„	Fish.
		6 dozen Eggs.

Public Cleansing Service.

The subject matter of this section of the report deals with the year ending 31st March, 1944, as distinct from the report which is for the year ending 31st December, 1943.

Every endeavour has been made to maintain the effective working of the department during the year, which has at times been difficult due to labour shortage and obtaining dustbins.

The number of salvage stewards remains the same as last year, and our thanks are due to these ladies who are carrying out this important work.

There has been a slight decrease in the weight of various materials collected, nevertheless I am fully satisfied that if we had not had the service of the stewards and the full co-operation of the public the decrease would have been more pronounced.

The following tables give details of materials salvaged with statements of receipts and expenditure:—

Materials.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	110	0	3	2	754	19	5
Rags	5	8	3	3	115	3	10
Woollens	—	5	2	25	21	9	4
Carpets	—	12	—	4	3	12	3
Canvas	1	5	—	18	7	16	11
Canvas	1	6	—	18	7	16	11
String	—	5	1	—	2	1	7
Bottles	36	8	3	—	57	9	2
Rubber	2	5	2	10	6	18	4
Copper	—	1	1	21	2	12	9
Brass	—	2	0	27	2	10	4
Aluminium	—	1	2	15	4	17	11
Cast Aluminium	—	—	2	19	0	13	5
Lead	—	2	—	13	1	18	1
Battery Lead	—	2	1	11	1	3	8
Spelter... ..	—	—	1	5	0	3	4
Scrap Iron	3	2	1	14	7	16	1
Tins	8	8	3	—	5	9	9
Bones	4	3	1	20	19	16	4
Boots	—	18	1	—	7	6	0
Flocks	—	—	2	17	0	2	3
Kitchen Waste	85	7	—	—	181	16	11
Concentrate	14	5	—	—	93	18	3
Miscellaneous					24	10	2
					<hr/> £1324 6 1 <hr/>		

